

hours, days, weeks, and months to visit, learn, explore, and reflect on the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and all that it signifies and entails.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good day; it is a great day.

HONORING THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAINT PAUL

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Junior League of Saint Paul (JLSP) as the organization marks 100 years of dedicated community service to the people of Saint Paul, Minnesota. Since 1917, the Junior League of Saint Paul has been an all-female volunteer organization committed to the work of its founder, Elizabeth Ames Jackson. For the past century, JLSP has forged coalitions and leveraged the talents and passions of volunteers to address our community's greatest challenges.

After working on behalf of the Red Cross and supporting the war effort in the 1920's, JLSP found a cause of their own to champion. Realizing that there was a need in the community for women to have a place to recover peacefully from surgery, they created a Convalescent Home for Women and Girls. This allowed women to have a place out of the hospital where they might regain their strength before returning to the stresses of work and family.

In 1933, the JLSP was approached by the Children's Hospital to create a needy-bed fund for children whose families could not afford medical care. The JLSP eagerly stepped in and started a city wide push for funds to support the hospital. Their success culminated in the creation of the Children's Hospital Association, which in later years has gone on to fund hospital initiatives and start-up programs. The Children's Hospital Association is still providing for the healthcare needs of children in the Saint Paul area to this day in part because of the work of the JLSP.

Understanding that there were other challenges to address in the community, the JLSP shifted their focus to the development of recreational spaces for Saint Paul's youth. They partnered with the Neighborhood House and the Community Chest, which later became the United Way, to start Saint Paul Community Services. With the help of \$12,000 of seed money from the JLSP, Saint Paul Community Services, now known as Keystone Community Services, is still in operation today.

In the 1980's as Saint Paul welcomed an influx of Hmong refugees, the women of the Saint Paul Junior League saw a way that they may help their new neighbors. The JLSP saw the beauty and opportunity represented in the story cloths made by Hmong women. By helping to market these beautiful cloths for sale in the community, JLSP assisted in empowering their new neighbors to earn money and improve their English.

In the 1990's the JLSP pivoted to the issue of domestic violence and started the Minnesota chapter of Silent Witness; an organization that helped to bring awareness and honor the memory of women killed as a result of

abuse. In the new century, members of JLSP worked with Women's Advocates in Saint Paul, the nation's first battered women's shelter. They helped to make the shelter more physically comfortable, inviting, and safe for women who were seeking refuge.

Over the course of a century, the JLSP has taken on daunting challenges in Saint Paul to create solutions to lift up those disadvantaged and struggling members of our community. Mr. Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the Junior League of Saint Paul on its 100th anniversary—and for the next century of service to the community.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WILDERNESS MONTH

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of September as National Wilderness Month.

This month we marked the 52nd anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964, which created our National Wilderness Preservation System and established the procedure for designating federal lands as wilderness by Congress.

Earlier this year, Congress was blessed with a visit from Pope Francis, who took his papal name from St. Francis of Assisi, the protector of the proper joyful balance in care for the earth. In his encyclical, the Holy Father notes St. Francis's request that "part of the friary garden was always left untouched," just like America's extraordinary wilderness.

Arkansas is home to 12 of these unique wilderness areas, including the Flatside Wilderness in the Ouachita National Forest. In March, I was joined by Arkansas Rep. Rick Beck, members of the Boy Scouts, the Ozark Society, the Sierra Club, and representatives from the U.S. Forest Service on a six mile hike through Flatside, enjoying the serene beauty of this area left wild.

During National Wilderness Month, we recognize these wilderness areas in our great country and the need to preserve them for future generations of Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. DOROTHY HYATT

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to an exceptional community leader and outstanding citizen, Mrs. Dorothy Hyatt, on the occasion of her retirement as Executive Director of Girls, Inc. of Columbus, Georgia.

A Columbus native, Dorothy Hyatt starting going to Girls, Inc. at an early age and continued her attendance throughout high school. Her mother worked many hours to support Dorothy and her four siblings so Dorothy would spend much of her time at Girls, Inc. where she would do arts and crafts, learn how

to cook and sew, and play in the swimming pool. Her peers and mentors at Girls, Inc. encouraged her to attend college after her graduation from Jordan High School in 1972. She received a scholarship from Girls, Inc. and earned a Bachelor's degree in Social Rehabilitation from Troy State University in 1976 and a Master's in Criminal Justice from the same university in 1980.

Girls, Inc. had been such an integral part of her childhood and teenage years that it came as no surprise when Mrs. Hyatt returned to Girls, Inc. to work as Center Director of the Garrard Center in Columbus in 1976. In 1981, Mrs. Hyatt became the Executive Director of Girls, Inc. of Columbus and has served in this capacity ever since. There was no better candidate to run the organization than Mrs. Hyatt. Having been on the receiving side of the program, she knew the impact it could have on a young girl and the decisions she made during the most formative years of her life. Girls, Inc. can be the difference between a bright, successful future and a life of drugs, crime, or poverty. Mrs. Hyatt's understanding of the organization's mission on a personal level has helped to keep Girls, Inc. effective in mentoring girls and shaping them into strong, independent women.

In addition to her leadership of Girls, Inc., Mrs. Hyatt has proven to be an exceptional member of her community. She has served on the Columbus South Task Force and the Columbus Coalition of Children and Youth. She served as a board member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club and the St. Francis Hospital Advisory Committee for Women's Health. In 1996, Ms. Hyatt served as President of the United Way Directors Association. She is a 1993 graduate of Leadership Columbus and a 1998 graduate of Leadership Georgia.

Ms. Hyatt has been recognized numerous times for her professional and community work. She is a recipient of the Girls, Inc. Southern Regional Professional of the Year Award; the Judge Aaron Cohn Community Service Award; the Keith Bissel Volunteer Award from the Kiwanis Club; the Gracious Lady Award, the Leadership Georgia Foundation Award, and the Governor Honors Award, among many others.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: "You make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give." Not only has Mrs. Hyatt made her living at Girls, Inc. by mentoring and uplifting girls beyond their circumstances, but she has also made her life by giving back to the great city of Columbus in so many ways. We are all very grateful for her tireless advocacy in making our community stronger. A woman of great integrity, her efforts, her dedication, and her expertise are unparalleled, but her heart for helping others utilizing these qualities has made her life's work truly special.

Mrs. Hyatt has accomplished much in her life but none of it would be possible without the love and support of her husband, Phil; her children, Emilee and Wynn; and her grandson, Harrison.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mrs. Dorothy Hyatt upon the occasion of her retirement from an outstanding career spanning four decades with Girls, Inc. of Columbus.